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Pro-Ject Primary E

Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable User Manual

Model: Primary E

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable. This manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your new record player. The Primary E is designed for ease of use, featuring a Plug & Play setup with a pre-mounted Ortofon OM cartridge, pre-set tracking force, and anti-skating.
Key features include:

- Pre-mounted Ortofon OM cartridge
- Pre-set tracking force (18 mN) and anti-skating
- 8.6-inch aluminum tonearm with sapphire bearings
- Belt drive with synchronous motor and silicone belt
- Supports 33 and 45 RPM speeds (manual change)
- Vibration-absorbing feet
- CNC-machined composite fiber plinth

2. Safety Instructions

Please read these safety instructions carefully before using your turntable. Keep this manual for future reference.

- **Power Supply:** Only use the power adapter supplied with the unit. Ensure the voltage matches your local power supply.
- **Water and Moisture:** Do not expose the turntable to rain, moisture, or excessive humidity. Do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on the turntable.
- **Heat:** Do not place the turntable near heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit. Do not block any ventilation openings.
- **Cleaning:** Unplug the unit from the wall outlet before cleaning. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
- **Placement:** Place the turntable on a stable, level surface to prevent vibrations and ensure proper operation.

3. Package Contents

Carefully unpack all items from the box. Please ensure all components listed below are present:

- Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable with pre-mounted Ortofon OM cartridge
- Dust cover with adjustable hinges
- Felt mat
- RCA phono cable with gold-plated contacts
- 7-inch single adapter
- Power supply
- Allen key
- Stylus pressure gauge (for verification, not adjustment)



Figure 3.1: The Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable shown with its dust cover open, illustrating the main unit and hinting at the comprehensive set of accessories included in the box for immediate use.

4. Setup

The Pro-Ject Primary E is designed for a quick and easy setup. Follow these steps to get your turntable ready for use.

4.1 Placement

Choose a stable, level surface for your turntable, away from direct sunlight, heat sources, and strong vibrations. The turntable's vibration-absorbing feet help to decouple it from the supporting surface, but a solid foundation is still crucial for optimal sound quality.

4.2 Platter and Belt Installation

1. Carefully place the platter onto the turntable spindle.
2. Locate the silicone drive belt. Gently stretch the belt around the motor pulley (the smaller, raised cylinder near the back-left of the platter) and the outer rim of the platter. Ensure the belt is seated correctly and not twisted.



Figure 4.1: Detailed view of the belt drive system, showing the silicone belt correctly positioned around the motor pulley and the platter's sub-platter.

4.3 Tonearm and Cartridge

The Ortofon OM cartridge is pre-mounted, and the tracking force and anti-skating are pre-adjusted at the factory. No further adjustments are typically needed for initial setup.



Figure 4.2: Close-up of the tonearm, highlighting the pre-adjusted anti-skating mechanism and the counterweight, demonstrating the 'light and low friction' design.

4.4 Connecting to an Amplifier

Connect the supplied RCA phono cable from the output jacks on the rear of the turntable to the **PHONO input** on your amplifier or receiver. If your amplifier does not have a dedicated PHONO input, you will need an external phono preamplifier (not included) between the turntable and a standard line-level input (e.g., AUX, CD) on your amplifier.

4.5 Power Connection

Connect the power supply to the DC input jack on the turntable and then plug the power adapter into a suitable wall outlet.



Figure 4.3: A complete setup showing the Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable connected and ready for use in a typical home audio environment.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1 Playing a Record

1. Place a record on the platter. If using a 7-inch single, place the adapter over the spindle.
2. Select the correct speed (33 or 45 RPM) by manually moving the drive belt to the appropriate groove on the motor pulley. For 33 RPM, the belt should be on the smaller diameter part of the pulley. For 45 RPM, move the belt to the larger diameter part.
3. Remove the stylus guard from the cartridge.
4. Gently lift the tonearm using the tonearm lift lever.
5. Move the tonearm over the desired starting groove of the record.
6. Slowly lower the tonearm using the tonearm lift lever. The stylus will make contact with the record, and playback will begin.

5.2 Stopping Playback

1. At the end of the record, or when you wish to stop playback, gently lift the tonearm using the tonearm lift lever.
2. Return the tonearm to its rest position.
3. Lower the tonearm lift lever to secure the tonearm.
4. Replace the stylus guard if you are finished listening.

Important: When removing a record from the platter, be careful not to accidentally dislodge the drive belt. If the belt comes off, gently place it back onto the motor pulley and platter rim as described in the setup section.

6. Maintenance

6.1 Cleaning the Turntable

- Always unplug the turntable from the power outlet before cleaning.
- Use a soft, lint-free cloth to wipe the plinth and dust cover. For stubborn marks, a slightly damp cloth can be used, followed by a dry cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- Keep the dust cover closed when not in use to prevent dust accumulation.

6.2 Stylus Care

- Regularly clean the stylus using a dedicated stylus cleaning brush or fluid. Always brush from back to front (from the pivot point towards the stylus tip).
- Avoid touching the stylus with your fingers, as oils and dirt can damage it.
- A worn stylus can damage your records and degrade sound quality. Replace the stylus when necessary (typically after 500-1000 hours of playback, depending on usage and record condition).

6.3 Drive Belt

The silicone drive belt is durable but can stretch or degrade over time. If you notice inconsistent speed or the belt slipping, it may need to be cleaned or replaced. Clean the belt with a soft cloth and a small amount of isopropyl alcohol. If the issue persists, consider replacing the belt.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your turntable, please consult the following table before contacting support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power / Turntable not spinning	Power cable not connected; Power outlet faulty	Check power connections; Try a different outlet
No sound or very low volume	Incorrect input on amplifier; No phono preamplifier; RCA cables loose or faulty	Select PHONO input; Use an external phono preamplifier if amplifier lacks one; Check RCA cable connections
Distorted sound	Dirty stylus; Worn stylus; Dirty record; Incorrect amplifier input	Clean stylus; Replace stylus; Clean record; Ensure PHONO input is selected
Speed fluctuations / Incorrect speed	Drive belt slipping or worn; Belt not correctly positioned	Check belt position; Clean or replace drive belt
Humming noise	Grounding issue; Proximity to other electronics	Ensure proper grounding (if applicable); Move turntable away from other devices
Skipping	Dirty or damaged record; Turntable not level; Stylus damaged	Clean or replace record; Ensure turntable is level; Inspect stylus for damage

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model	Primary E
Speeds	33, 45 RPM (manual speed change)
Drive Principle	Belt drive
Platter	300 mm with felt mat
Main Bearing	Stainless steel spindle with bronze bushing
Tonearm	8.6-inch aluminum
Effective Tonearm Length	218.5 mm
Overhang	22 mm
Tracking Force	18 mN (pre-set)
Cartridge	Ortofon OM (pre-mounted)
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	60 dB
Power Consumption	5 Watts
Dimensions (W x H x D)	420 x 112 x 330 mm (with dust cover closed)
Weight	4 kg
Material	CNC-machined composite fiber plinth, Steel Inox

9. Warranty Information

The Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable comes with a **2-year manufacturer's warranty** from the date of purchase. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and faults in materials. It does not cover damage caused by misuse, accident, unauthorized modifications, or normal wear and tear (e.g., stylus wear, belt wear).
Please retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims. For warranty service, please contact your authorized Pro-Ject dealer or distributor.

10. Support

If you have any questions or require further assistance with your Pro-Ject Primary E Turntable, please refer to the following resources:

- **Authorized Dealer:** Contact the retailer from whom you purchased the turntable.
- **Pro-Ject Audio Systems Website:** Visit the official Pro-Ject Audio Systems website for FAQs, product information, and support contacts. You can typically find this by searching for "Pro-Ject Audio Systems" online.

Please have your model name (Primary E) and serial number (if applicable) ready when contacting support.

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